

Hoss assails militias; Aoun seeks attention

BEIRUT (AP) — Salim Al Hoss, the head of the civilian cabinet in Lebanon's dual government, made his strongest attack ever on militia leaders Friday while blaming them for abducting the civil servant in charge of grain and sugar imports.

His blast came as rival gunners skirmished with howitzers in Beirut and army commander Michel Aoun was calling for protests by Lebanese worldwide to focus attention on the country's problems.

Also Friday, Israeli-allied militiamen of the South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia Friday clashed with guerrillas of the Party of God in the eastern Bekaa Valley. Police said no casualties were immediately reported.

Prime Minister Hoss did not name the militias he believes responsible for the Wednesday kidnapping of Raja Bsat.

A previously unknown group, calling itself Father of the Poor, has claimed abducting Bsat in the west Beirut Wednesday to protest a bread shortage.

Bsat, headed the grain and sugar department, in charge of imports, in the civilian cabinet's Economy Ministry.

Hoss blamed the shortages in vital supplies on "leaders who have become merchants."

He was apparently referring to the leaders of the various militias who have been recently accused of making astronomical profits from suspicious business deals.

The unarmed population, politicians who do not belong to militia factions and moderate government leaders have been privately complaining recently that warlords were using their power to strike illegal business deals.

They claim militia leaders blast power poles and block fuel supplies to power stations to force the population to purchase auxiliary generators imported by them or by their partners.

Hoss, in a statement broadcast by local radio stations, accused such militias of kidnapping Bsat to "Cover up for their crimes."

Hoss, who does not have a political party or a militia, said he was "aware of the population's plight," including the brutality of illegal taxation by militias. He did not offer any solutions, however.

The various militias, in addition to collecting customs dues in ports they run, also levy taxes in their respective areas of influence.

A police spokesman said gunners deployed in west Beirut, fired about 20 howitzer shells into

the coastline north of Beirut throughout the day to maintain a blockade of Aoun-controlled ports.

The spokesman, who cannot be named in line with standing rules, said the 130-mm Soviet-designed shells exploded around the ports of Jounieh and Byblos to prevent Aoun from importing war materials by sea.

Aoun's gunners, deployed in the 800-square-kilometre enclave responded with 155-mm howitzers, the spokesman said.

He said five howitzer shells fired by Aoun's gunners exploded around artillery batteries along west Beirut's seaside boulevard.

Witnesses, speaking on condition of anonymity, said motorists deserted their vehicles and sought refuge entrances to buildings when a howitzer shell exploded on the main highway in the Ras Beirut district at 10:30 a.m. (0730 GMT).

One witness said the shell explosion "inflicted damage on some cars, but no casualties were observed."

"Those who took cover in nearby buildings, rushed back to their cars a few minutes after the shell exploded and sped away," he added.

The current round of violence broke out March 8, pitting Aoun's 20,000 army units against Syrian and allied forces.

By police count, 373 people have been killed and 1,457 wounded in the 14-week confrontation that continued despite repeated calls by Arab leaders for a ceasefire.

The confrontation broke out two days after Aoun blockaded the Israeli port of Beirut for denying the ailing state treasury about \$100 million in customs dues annually.

Syrian and allied forces retaliated by besieging the Aoun enclave, home for about one million people.

Aoun, addressing a news conference at his bomb-ravaged presidential palace in the suburb of Baabda, protested what he termed "the silence practiced by the world regarding the killing of Lebanon."

He called on "the Lebanese and their friends in the world to stage sit-ins near the U.S. and Soviet embassies all over the world as of Monday."

The move, he said, aims at pressuring Syria into lifting its blockade of the enclave and accepting a ceasefire in the confrontation with Aoun's troops.

IAEA chief calls for rebuilding of Iran plant

NICOSIA (AP) — The secretary-general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has called for the completion of an unfinished nuclear power plant heavily damaged by air attacks during the Gulf war, the official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported Friday.

IRNA said Secretary-General Hans Blix deplored the idea that the plant near the southern port of Bushehr should be abandoned unfinished.

The agency said Thursday that on arrival at Bushehr Blix said that the Vienna-base IAEA was prepared to cooperate with Iran in estimating "the technical and economic damage" the Iraqi attacks inflicted.

IRNA said Blix was heading a delegation of senior officials of the United Nations-affiliated organisation.

The team flew to Teheran

Wednesday on a weeklong visit amid reports Teheran was trying to reactivate its nuclear energy programme since a ceasefire halted the Iran-Iraq war last August.

He was expected to meet with Iran's Atomic Energy Organisation Director Reza Amrohali and other Iranian officials.

The Iranian agency quoted Blix as saying Wednesday that his agency and Iran's Atomic Energy Organisation had cooperated on projects in recent years.

IRNA said he voiced the hope that "suitable grounds" could be found for "mutual cooperation in the future."

But IAEA spokesman James Dalgleish said in a telephone interview from Vienna that Blix's visit was "primarily diplomatic and there is no specific purpose, such as revitalising Iran's nuclear facilities."

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With the destruction by artillery fire of the main fuel depot at Dora in east Beirut, the forces of army commander Michel Aoun have been

facing an acute shortage of fuel in the face of a blockade by rival militias of ports controlled by Aoun.

Baker reaffirms U.S. support for Israeli plan

WASHINGTON (USIA) — U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, responding to questions during a House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee meeting, has reiterated U.S. support for Israel's proposal for elections in the occupied territories. At the same time, he stressed the need for direct Israeli-Palestinian talks rather than an international conference.

"We have tried to discourage the Soviets and member countries of the European Community from pressing forward at this time for an international conference," he said, "but that might preempt more promising opportunities."

In last week's bilateral working group on the Middle East, he said, the United States emphasized to the Soviets that their proposal for an international conference would "divert attention away from engaging Israelis and

Palestinians directly." He said the point was made that world attention should be kept "riveted on changing the situation on the ground" and getting to elections.

However, he repeated the U.S. position that "an international conference, properly structured and at the appropriate time, could usefully advance the peace process."

Other nations that had been

totally committed to the concept of an "immediate recourse" to an international conference sponsored by the permanent U.N. Security Council members, the secretary noted, "are now saying 'let's see if we can make this (Israeli) election process work.'"

On the subject of an administration request to Congress for permission to proceed with arms sales to Saudi Arabia, the secretary said these "proposals are quite justifiable." He called for close consultations with Congress

on the matter. "We have interests with moderate Arab states that are quite important to the United States and the free world, not just by what happens in the USSR-Iran relationship."

On another matter, while he had no direct comments on the visit of Iranian Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani to Moscow and a reported possible arms deal between Iran and the Soviet Union, Baker noted that the United States had discussed with the Soviets the U.S. concerns about the transfer of weapons and the proliferation of missile and chemical weapons technology.

During his May talks in Moscow, Baker said the two sides

specifically discussed Iran and "the reluctance of the Soviet Union to condemn" the Iranian call for the assassination of Americans.

He said that U.S. policy towards Iran "has to be guided by

developments" there and by the Iranians' approach to the United States and the free world, "not just by what happens in the USSR-Iran relationship."

"We don't know yet... exactly what course the developments in Iran will take, following the death of the Ayatollah Khomeini," he pointed out. "We do know that Iran has not as yet renounced terrorism," nor taken action "leading to the likely release" of the American hostages in Lebanon, "or at least demonstrating their willingness to use their influence" with the hostage takers.

"There are many things that, in our view, Iran needs to do before there can be a significant improvement" in relations, Baker said. The United States should be "receptive" to such steps, he continued, "provided they are willing to take the requisite steps to improve relations."

Debate rekindled over Israeli reliance on Palestinian workers

By Marjorie Oster
The Associated Press

PETAH TIKVA — A transit camp built to keep Palestinian day labourers off the streets has triggered an outcry from some Israelis who see it as a form of segregation and discrimination.

After 18 months of clashes between Palestinian protesters and government soldiers in the occupied territories, anti-Arab sentiments are growing among Israelis, rekindling a debate over the country's reliance on Palestinians for manual labour.

The "holding area" in Petah Tikva and a move by an Israeli settlement to make Arab labourers wear "alien worker" badges are symbols of the growing segregation between Jews and Arabs, said Moshe Semyonov, a sociologist at Tel Aviv University.

"People on both ends of the political spectrum are against depending on Arabs — one out of antagonism, the other for humanistic or moral reasons," said Semyonov, a specialist in labour relations.

He called on "the Lebanese and their friends in the world to stage sit-ins near the U.S. and Soviet embassies all over the world as of Monday."

The move, he said, aims at pressuring Syria into lifting its blockade of the enclave and accepting a ceasefire in the confrontation with Aoun's troops.

"temporary prison."

The original plan called for a fenced-in holding pen where Arab workers would be required to show their identity cards and wait to be hired by Jewish employers.

But after the public outcry, the town revised the plans, doing away with the fence and dropping the idea of forcing workers to wait in the camp.

The shelters now consist of metal frames with plastic roofs, three park benches and a portable toilet.

The Arab labourers who come to Petah Tikva at dawn from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip have customarily waited for jobs at an intersection about 100 metres from the shelter.

The Arab labourers who work as street cleaners, garbage collectors, furniture movers, painters and in canning factories, said they object to the shelters.

"It is like a prison. None of the workers want to go to the shelters," said Sughi, a worker in his 40s from the West Bank city of Nablus.

Another worker, Faisal, in his 20s, said he feared labourers would be harassed by the police or targeted for violent attacks by Jewish extremists if they waited in the shelters.

"People are afraid to go to the shelter. They are afraid of the police or of citizens here who might plant bombs or

shoot guns at us," he said.

Both refused to give their last names, fearing reprisals.

Avraham Oren, a Petah Tikva town council member who opposed the holding area, said it would probably never be used because of the controversy surrounding it.

"This idea that it is possible to put people in pens is like segregation of the races," he said.

But council spokesman Shuki Yelin defended the shelters, saying they were built to ease the concern of Jewish residents.

"We built it because... many Jewish citizens protested and sent petitions, saying they are suffering because of the presence of the Arabs near their houses," Yelin said. "It's not racist. We know we are criticised, but it's not a jail. We don't force them to go. It's an open place."

In other Israeli towns, officials have suggested barring Arab labourers altogether or tightening controls over the workers.

Such proposals come at a time of rising Israeli frustration over the continuing uprising in the occupied territories and right-wing calls for military repression.

Actions elsewhere

In the West Bank settlement of Ariel, officials backed down

from a plan to make Arabs wear tags labelling them "alien workers" after critics compared them to the yellow stars of David that Jews were forced to wear in Nazi Germany.

In Naharia, a town near the Lebanese border, the Moroccan-born Mayor of Gabi Sabagh last month called on Jewish residents to stop selling and renting real estate to Arabs.

The mayor of the southern Israeli town of Ashdod, Avi Zilker, barred all Arab workers temporarily after two soldiers disappeared. One of the soldiers, Avi Saptar, was found dead. Security forces said they believed Islamic extremists killed him.

Israelis are torn between dependence on Arab workers, who make about half the wages of Israeli labourers, and "guilt" over exploiting them, said Professor Ephraim Yuchtman-Ya'ar, a social psychologist at Tel Aviv University.

"People recognise the labour is vital for the Israeli economy. They are doing low-status jobs that Israelis prefer not to do," Ya'ar said.

"But morally, many Israelis feel the Arabs should be treated equally to Jewish workers with the same fringe benefits and general conditions," he said. "Because they are not, it is exploitation and should be denounced."

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:00 ... Amman (RJ)

11:40 ... Tripoli (RJ)

12:00 ... Kuwait (RJ)

13:45 ... Beirut (RJ)

17:25 ... Paris (RJ)

22:45 ... Paris, Damascus (RJ)

05:30 ... Athens (RJ)

14:45 ... Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)

16:40 ... Tripoli (RJ)

16:45 ... Cairo (RJ)

17:00 ... Kuwait (RJ)

17:30 ... Beirut (RJ)

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Queen visits children's exhibition

AMMAN — Her Majesty Queen Noor Thursday visited the children's drawing exhibition, organised by Al Samra Elementary School, to mark the Great Arab Revolt and the Army Day. On display at the exhibition, which was held at the Royal Cultural Centre, are 100 drawings by school children aged between 3 and 9 years. Queen Noor was briefed on the drawings by the students themselves. The Queen was accompanied by Her Royal Highness Princess Alia Al Faisal and Health and Social Development Minister Zuhair Malhas. (Petra)



JERASH FESTIVAL: Her Majesty Queen Noor inspects the site currently being prepared to host the 1989 Jerash Festival due to open July 5. The Queen was accompanied by Tourism Minister Nasouh Majali, Festival Director Akram Masarwah and other officials. (Photo by Yousef Al 'Aali).

60 blood donors receive awards

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Thursday presented certificates and awards to 60 blood donors in appreciation of their true belonging and cooperation with those who are in need of blood.

Chairman of the National Blood-donors Society, which organised the event to honour blood donors, presented the society's trophy to Queen Noor in recognition of her role in supporting pioneering voluntary work.

Addressing the celebration was the director of Al Hussein Youth City, Dr. Arif Bataineh, who paid tribute to Queen Noor for her leading role in achieving the welfare of Jordanian citizens.

He pointed out that Noor Al Hussein Foundation was one of the many evidences of Queen Noor's interests in realising a brighter future for Jordan.

Bataineh thanked the Queen for being patron of the celebration and for honouring the blood donors.

The society Chairman, Janet Mirza, who is also the director of the Blood Bank, said that blood donation to save the life of a citizen is the true interpretation



Her Majesty Queen Noor Thursday presents an award to one of the blood donors at Al Hussein Youth City in Amman. (Petra photo)

of the meaning of genuine belonging, and is the best feature of a civilised community.

The celebration was attended by Her Royal Highness Princess Alia Al Faisal, Health and Social Development Minister Zuhair Malhas, and Planning Minister Ziad Fariz.

NHF organises 5-day course on scriptwriting

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Noor Al Hussein Foundation's Health Communications for Child Survival Project (Healthcom) is organising a five-day training course in scriptwriting for development communication starting Saturday.

The course, which is held in cooperation with the Washington-based Academy for Educational Development (AED), will be conducted by two international experts, Ms. Esta de Fossard, AED senior communications officer, and Dr. Taher Al Amouri, a Tunisian specialist in communication and the design and implementation of training programmes.

Fifteen persons will take part in the course including radio and television scriptwriters and health education specialists from the Ministry of Health, United Nations Relief and Works Agency

(UNRWA), private voluntary organisations and United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA).

The workshop will include a definition of developmental communication, advanced skills in message and generic scriptwriting for behaviour change; techniques to reflect sensitivity to target group environment, attitudes and language and check-lists for effective utilisation of audience research data.

Ms. de Fossard is an Australian residing permanently in the United States. Since 1984, she has been working with AED in all areas of development communications, including project planning; conducting seminars and workshops; evaluating projects, organising and running training programmes; writing and producing communications-related audio, video and print

materials.

She has written a training manual for planners of the communication components of developmental projects, "the Planning Process for Development Communication," a book on translating scientific concepts for the lay audience, and a number of articles published in Asia Calling and Development Communication Report.

She also wrote 13 textbooks in language, arts, logic and clear thinking; 14 children's books, many of which have also been published in several languages, including Greek, Croatian, Italian and Turkish; the Koala series of fables about Australian animals; and the Alien, a novel.

Dr. Taher Al Amouri is a Tunisian specialist who studied at the Saint Cyr Military Academy and the Sorbonne in France. He has taught psychology at

higher educational institutions and at the military academy in Tunisia. He is the director of the Al Amouri Institute of Applied Psychology, a private establishment specialising in audience and community research.

He has written four books in French on various social and psychological topics and he has been president of the Association for Psychological Guidance and Aid since its establishment in 1982.

Healthcom is designed to help Jordan increase the impact of its child survival programmes through improved communication. It is jointly funded by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation and the United States Agency for International Development. It is being implemented by NHF with technical assistance from AED.

Islamic Bank to provide Saudi riyals for pilgrims

AMMAN (Petra) — Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Secretary General Ahmad Helayel Friday said that the ministry has made contacts with a number of local bankers and held meetings with Central Bank officials to provide the necessary Saudi currency to cover the needs of the carrier companies and the ministry.

At a press conference, Helayel said that the ministry has agreed with the Central Bank to provide 2,000 Saudi riyals for each pilgrim (Haj).

Another agreement has been

reached with the Islamic Bank, whereby the various bank branches will provide the necessary Saudi currency for pilgrims and the pilgrim's carrier companies.

On the ministry's preparations for the current Haj season, Helayel said that the ministry has compiled a list, including names of pilgrims and their places of residence in each of Mecca and Medina.

According to this list every pilgrim will know where he will exactly be put up.

For the convenience of pilgrims, Helayel said, each Haj

will be issued with an identity card, carrying personal information and his residential address in Mecca, Medina, and in the camps of Mena and Arafah.

He added that the ministry has also issued a pilgrim's directory, including important instructions on health matters and necessary telephone numbers to enable them to contact their families in Jordan.

The ministry has also provided bracelets, carrying names of pilgrims, names of carrier companies, number of the buses and addresses of the Jordanian teams

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian and Arab artists at Al Wasiti Art Gallery.
- ★ An art exhibition entitled "Study in Line and Colour" by Dodi Tabaa at the Petra Bank Art Gallery.
- ★ An exhibition entitled "French Jazz Nowdays" in which several videos will be shown at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ A photo exhibition which includes photos depicting the great role played by the leaders of the Great Arab Revolt at the Palace of Culture, Al Hussein Youth City.
- ★ A photo exhibition by August Sander at the Goethe Institute — 5:00 p.m.

LECTURE

- ★ A lecture entitled "The effects of the uprising on culture in the occupied lands" by Dr. Khalil Sawahiri at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation — 6:30 p.m.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

HOT ICE PERFORMANCE: His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Ibu Al Hussein has attended a musical performance by the band Hot Ice presented at the King Abdullah Ibu Al Hussein Auditorium. The proceeds will go to the Friends of the Liver Patients Society. (Petra)

QASEM MEETS RIGHTS GROUP: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem has received a delegation representing the U.S. Human Rights Commission, currently on a visit to Jordan as part of a tour of the region. The director general of the Palestinian Affairs Department at the Foreign Ministry also received the visiting delegation. (Petra)

GREAT ARAB REVOLT EXHIBITION: Youth Minister Awad Khleifat Thursday inaugurated the Great Arab Revolt exhibition, which was held at Al Hussein Youth City Palace of Culture to mark the Great Arab Revolt Day. The exhibition, organised by the Youth Ministry, in cooperation with the Department of Libraries, Documentation and National Archive, includes several pavilions, one for photos of the late Sherif Hussein Ibu Ali, one for his sons and another for the most important events, a fourth one for the Great Arab Revolt men and a fifth for historical events dealing with the revolt. (Petra)

King voices satisfaction with RJ standards, achievements

Ghandour: Air carrier to leave \$77m surplus

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Thursday presided over a board meeting for Royal Jordanian airline to hear a report by its Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Ali Ghandour on the air carrier's operations and development.

The King expressed his deep satisfaction with the activities of the Royal Jordanian (RJ) which, he said, is a national institution that serves as Jordan's ambassador to the world and a bridge to bolster the Kingdom's cultural and trade ties with the outside world.

King Hussein said that the airline which started off with a modest capital has now attained high standards and accomplished numerous achievements.

The King expressed his total confidence in Ghandour and the Royal Jordanian staff and said he was pleased with the airline's development and progress.

Ghandour briefed the meeting on the airline's future strategy and outlined the Royal Jordanian operations.

The board discussed financial affairs, including operational plans for 1989 and a number of internal affairs. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibu Shaker.

Meanwhile Ghandour said in an interview that the national air carrier expects to collect \$314 million and JD 28 million in 1989 compared to \$300 million and JD 20 million in 1988.

He said in an interview with the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the airline's general expenses were expected to reach \$27 million and JD 50 million, thus leaving a \$77 million surplus in foreign exchange.



His Majesty King Hussein Thursday presides over a Royal Jordanian board meeting in Amman (Petra photo)

Ghandour said Royal Jordanian's fleet of 17 modern aircraft reaches 46 capitals around the world, thus further bolstering Jordan's economic, cultural, trade and political ties with the world community.

Last year the airline transported 1.4 million passengers, many of whom were tourists who spent nearly \$239 million in Jordan, according to Central Bank of Jordan figures. Ghandour noted.

He said that the Royal Jordanian has now sold its old aircraft only to replace them with modern craft like the Airbus and the Tri Stars.

The new planes, he explained, have been financed through bank loans and that the Royal Jordanian has been playing off the debts from the sale of old aircraft. Ghandour noted that the national airline's current debt now

stands at \$120 million which were originally obtained by the airline to set up income generating projects like hotels and training centres.

But he emphasised that the loans are being settled from the airline's own revenues and not from the Jordanian Treasury.

Mr. Ghandour disclosed that the airline's current assets are estimated at JD 60 million, nearly three times its paid up capital, and has numerous investments designed to augment its annual income.

The airline's general operations, Ghandour pointed out, has actively contributed to the tourism industry in Jordan, "thanks to the efforts of its numerous offices around the world which help market the Kingdom's archaeological and touristic sites with a view to maintaining its highest standard, efficiency and distinguished services."

Indeed the national airline serves as a bridge to promote understanding and develop the country's relations with the Arab and foreign countries at different levels, the airline's chief noted.

He said that RJ operates a training centre, "one of the best in the region, and provides maintenance services at its workshops to Arab and foreign airlines."

Ghandour said that the national airline employs 5,150 workers who support 25,000 citizens, paying them altogether some JD 23 million in annual salaries that is almost twice the airline's initial capital.

Ghandour said that the airline has never ceased the process of continued development and upgrading the skill of its personnel with a view to maintaining its highest standard, efficiency and distinguished services.

Symposium discusses impact of Islamic life on social and health development

AMMAN (Petra) — Health and Social Development Minister Zuhair Malhas Friday, stood in for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, in opening the symposium on patterns of Islamic life and their impact on social and health development, held on the sidelines of the 7th conference of Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research (Al Al Bayt Foundation).

Addressing the symposium, Malhas said that the last five decades have witnessed the conquering of many communicable diseases, by discovering their causes and remedies, and developing the necessary vaccines against them. However, new epidemics and increasing numbers of non-communicable diseases have now appeared, but no sufficient response has yet been received.

Malhas noted that many non-communicable diseases are closely related to the patterns of life or the daily practices of people.

Malhas pointed out that there was a drop of 2 per cent in the heart diseases in the United States over the last fifteen years, because of a change in the nutritional practices and personal habits, following a massive official campaign, stated by the health and information circles.

Also addressing the symposium was Hussein Al Gezairi, regional director of the World Health Organisation (WHO) East Mediterranean Regional Office, who outlined the importance of the primary health care approach in directing people to the right practices.

Gezairi also stressed the importance of health education and health communications in changing people's practices.

He called for innovating methods capable of correcting the passive patterns of life.

Director of the Islamic Organisation for Medical Sciences (IOMS) Abdul Rahman Al Awadi said that Islam has called on Muslims to safeguard their health and entrusted the community with the task of looking after its own health and that of the citizens.

The four-day symposium is organised by WHO in cooperation with Al Al Bayt Foundation and the IOMS.

On Thursday, the symposium on Prophet Mohammad's traditions (Summa) and its contribution towards building knowledge and civilisation, held within the framework of the 7th conference Al Al Bayt Foundation, praised the efforts made by the

academy in the area of Islamic culture and sciences, and voiced appreciation to it for the studies and research it has undertaken in such a short period of time.

At the conclusion of its meetings, the symposium stressed the need for utilising and building on all researches and studies presented during the previous symposium.

Participants stressed the need for compiling all works on Sunna and publishing them for easy reference, and for finalising the

volumes on Hadith (Prophet Mohammad's sayings), Hadith sciences and Hadith-tellers, in addition to preparing analytical indexes in accordance with the Sunna words and subjects.

They also recommended that the Academy, in cooperation with all institutions concerned, hold a symposium to draw up a comprehensive plan for the uses of computer in the field of Sunna.

They also recommended that Sunna be taught at the various



Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi and his accompanying delegation are seen Thursday upon their return from the APU meetings in Abu Dhabi (Petra photo)

Arab parliamentarians give full support to Jordanian suggestions

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi and the accompanying parliamentary delegation returned home Thursday after taking part in the 5th Arab Parliamentary Union (APU) conference, which concluded in Abu Dhabi Wednesday.

In an arrival statement, Lawzi said the Jordanian delegation has played a distinctive role in the conference deliberations and has received the full support of other parliamentary delegations "for its perceptions and constructive suggestions, which serve the Arab interests."

Lawzi noted that the conference had adopted a number of recommendations on pan-Arab causes, including the Palestine question, the Lebanese crisis and the Iraq-Iran peace drive.

The APU further recommended that Arab issues be discussed at the International Parliamentary Union (IPU) meetings, due to be held in London next September and that Euro-Arab and Afro-Arab dialogue as well as dialogue with Latin American and Asian parliamentarians be pursued.

Lawzi reiterated that Arab Parliamentarians have unanimously agreed on all decisions and recommendations made at the conference and that no differences have surfaced during the conference.

The Jordanian-Parliamentary delegation included senators members Ahmad Tarawneh and Mohammad Rasour Al Kilani, as well as Fayed Nuwwar and Sufian Al Hassan from the APU General Secretariat staff.

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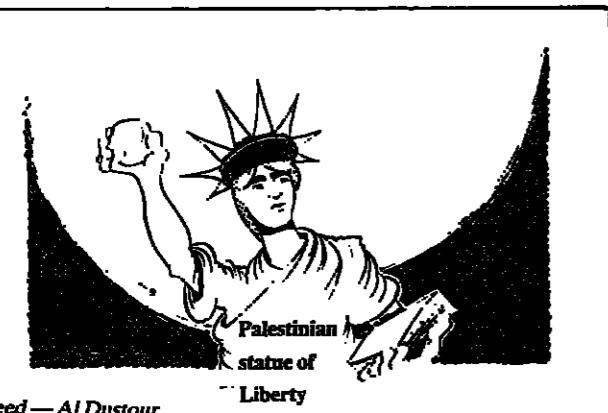
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Before it's too late

COMING as it does in the wake of Israel's most recent escalation of its oppressive policies against the Palestinian intifada, Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin's admission before the Knesset that the Palestinian uprising constitutes the most complex confrontation in Israel's history offers some avenues for hope. In Rabin's own words there were no ready-made cures for the Palestinian struggle and all proposed Likud recipes such as deportations are simply not workable as the protracted conflict is with all of the Palestinian people. If Rabin and like-minded Israelis are beginning now to comprehend the depth of the Palestinian intifada, and the impossibility of putting out the fire that animated the Palestinians in the occupied territories, would it not be in order and even in Israel's long term interest to start contemplating new thinking and perspective on how to stop the intifada, namely, by reconciling themselves with the proposition that nothing will stop the struggling Palestinians from continuing to wage their struggle for liberty and self-determination except the realisation of their legitimate aspirations as internationally recognised and approved. The longer the Israeli body politic waits for magic cures the easier it would become for the Israeli extremism to capitalise on the bankruptcy of existing Israeli policies and bring in new leadership such as the likes of Ariel Sharon who already earned Israel the hardest ever debacle when he engineered the invasion of Lebanon in 1982. Surely every sensible man and woman in Israel fully comprehend that the rise of extremism in Israel would inevitably lead to war with the Arab countries. And with the advent of rocketry and weapons of mass-destruction in the Middle East, any war that may erupt between Israel and its neighbouring Arab countries would necessarily precipitate a conflagration the like of which no Israeli or Arab generation has yet seen. The choice thus is for Israelis to make: Either to keep on closing their eyes to the truth and allow extremism to flourish and instigate war and destruction on a scale hitherto unknown, or accept to enter into a full-fledged political dialogue with the Palestinians. This is in essence the message that the Israeli people must see clearly before it is too late for all the peoples of the region.



JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i on Friday said that the Israeli government is showing its concern over the prospect that the European Community could be preparing to call for an international conference to solve the Middle East conflict. The paper said that what is irking the Israelis is the cold reaction displayed by the Europeans to the Shamir elections plan in the occupied territories because the Europeans realise that only through the international conference can the problem be settled. Jordan, the paper noted, has been reminding the international community that the Israeli plan in its present form cannot meet the requirements of a permanent peace and that going ahead with the Shamir proposal was nothing but a waste of time. It said that elections should be free and held without the presence of Israel's occupation forces and that the PLO should be involved if the aspired peace is to be achieved. But as the Europeans and the Arabs see the situation, Shamir is more concerned with perpetuating Israel's occupation than giving the Palestinians any rights in their own homeland and therefore an international conference should be convened to find an acceptable solution.

Al Dastour daily criticised Israel's policies and condemned its repressive measures in the occupied Palestinian land. The deportation of Arab citizens, the demolition of homes and the killing of innocent civilians expose the false claims of the Israelis that they are concerned with genuine peace, the paper said. The atrocities committed by the Jewish settlers, the paper noted, are a source of shame even to the Jews themselves and have been condemned by many Israeli people. Against all this background Yitzhak Rabin and his generals are not heeding any one's protest and are going ahead with their iron fist policy to quell the intifada and stifle the spirit of resistance, the paper noted. It said that the international community in general and those who brag about the human rights in the United States ought to realise the seriousness of the situation in the Arab land and to move to put an end to such atrocities.

Sawt Al Shaab daily referred to the Arab League's endeavours at the international level to expose Israel's actions against the Palestinian people. It said that while Arab envoys are busy and involved in international gatherings to talk about the atrocities, the Israelis are escalating their repressive measures in the occupied lands. The Israelis are not heeding any calls for peace and are not giving any regard to any protest from any source as long as they are assured of continued United States assistance and backing at the Security Council, the paper noted. It said that since Washington holds all the cards, it is time for the Arabs to continue their campaigns outside Washington and should now direct their attention to the Bush administration to help solve the chronic problem.

Ethnic unrest: Gorbachev's most serious problem

By Peter Conradi
Reuters

MOSCOW — Ethnic unrest is emerging as one of the most intractable problems facing President Mikhail Gorbachev as he struggles to reform the Soviet Union.

At least 200 people have been killed and more than 2,000 injured over the last 18 months in nationalist violence in the three Caucasian republics of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia and in Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan in Soviet Central Asia.

"These outbreaks are becoming almost a fact of life these days," said a Western diplomat Tuesday as details began to emerge of clashes in the Kazakh city of Novy Uzen in which at least three people have died over the last few days.

"Last week it was Uzbekistan, this week Kazakhstan who knows where it will be next?"

The diplomat explained: "It is a mixture of demands for political freedom prompted by glasnost, economic problems and a decline of ideology among young people."

For Gorbachev, the emergence, one after the other, of nationalist problems presents an unwelcome diversion from his main tasks of revolutionising Soviet foreign policy and dragging the country's floundering economy out of depression.

But force appears to have remained the preferred means of dealing with almost all manifestations of unrest since Gorbachev faced his first outbreak of nationalist violence in the Kazakh capital of Alma Ata in December 1986.

And, as speakers from various of the 15 Soviet republics made

clear at the inaugural session of the parliament, the congress of people's deputies, which ended this month, the problems have remained almost entirely unresolved.

For Gorbachev, continuing outbreaks of unrest present an unwelcome diversion from what he sees as his main tasks of revolutionising the Soviet Union's foreign policy and dragging the country's floundering economy out of depression.

A potent mixture of religious and ethnic differences and economic problems appeared to be behind unrest in the last 18 months over the underdeveloped mountainous enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh.

More than 90 people were killed last year and several hundred injured in clashes sparked by demands by the Armenian major-

ity of the region for it to be transferred from Azerbaijan to Armenia.

In characteristic manner, troops and tanks were sent both into Nagorno-Karabakh itself and to the capitals of both republics, ensuring that there has been no repetition in the last few months of last year's violence.

Early in the morning of April 9, troops armed with sharpened shovels and poison gas moved in to clear a square in the centre of the capital, Tbilisi, where some 8,000 were gathered, and killed 20 people, 16 of them women.

In contrast, troops apparently helped keep down the death toll in Uzbekistan's Fergana Valley, where almost 100 people were officially reported dead and some 1,500 injured this month when Uzbeks hunted down minority Meskhetian Turks.

Yet even here, the authorities' hands were not entirely clean. Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov, who went to Fergana last week to try and soothe the passions, accused local officials of active involvement in stirring up the unrest, the worst single outbreak in decades of Soviet history.

Sri Lanka: Resorting to emergency

By Rajendra Bajpai
Reuters

COLOMBO — Sri Lankan President Ranasinghe Premadasa, fighting challenges to his authority, used the only option available to him when he decided to reimpose a state of emergency, analysts said Wednesday.

Few were willing to hazard a guess whether he would succeed in controlling the situation with the emergency powers which allow the military to detain people without trial.

Premadasa introduced emergency rule last Tuesday after a crippling bus strike looked like spreading to other sectors in the build-up to a nationwide general strike.

Sinhalese guerrillas of the People's Liberation Front (JVP) are suspected of being behind the rash of strikes in Colombo and anti-government protests.

It was not immediately clear whether the military armed with its sweeping powers was preparing to crack down on the Sinhalese militants in their southern strongholds.

But a senior military officer based in Matara in the south said the army was stepping up its operation.

Nearly 24 hours after the proclamation of emergency, buses were still off the road in Colombo and there was minimal military presence on the streets.

Reggie, Sirivadene of the Institute of Ethnic Studies said the government was left with no option but to bring back the state of emergency which Premadasa lifted in January after more than five years.

"His (Premadasa's) hand has been forced. He did not have much choice in the matter," Sirivadene said.

The emergency rule under former President Junius Jayewardene was widely criticised by human rights activists and Premadasa promised during the election campaign last year he would revoke it as soon as he came to power.

Political analyst Ralph Buultjens of the State University of New York said Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi should be blamed in part for forcing the government to take the decision.

Anti-Indian sentiment on the island has escalated to new heights because of the presence of the presence of Indian troops invited two years ago to quell a rebellion by minority Tamils in the north and east.

Premadasa has asked India to withdraw its troops before the end of next month but New Delhi has said they would leave when the terms of the accord under which they came were implemented.

The government has opened talks with the Tamil Tigers, the powerful separatist guerrilla

force, in a bid to reach a political settlement but has failed to persuade JVP to talk peace.

Last Wednesday, parliament's speaker Hamida Mohamed made a fresh unconditional appeal for talks to the JVP, saying the country was "facing the gravest crisis."

Buultjens said if India has agreed to pull out its troops, it would have helped Premadasa in defusing the tension. "India is not disposed towards helping President Premadasa," he added.

"There is a confluence of crises," Buultjens said. Pointing to the country's growing economic problems, lack of direction in foreign policy and the JVP's armed campaign.

Western diplomatic sources said it was difficult to say whether the government would succeed in controlling the situation even with the help of emergency powers.

The government recently imposed restrictions on imports of luxury goods and raised interest rates in a bid to squeeze credit.

"Last Tuesday, bankers reported hot pursuit of funds in the interbank call market to buy dollars on rumours that the rupees might be devalued.

Security sources said five Indian soldiers and two Tamil Tigers were killed in separate clashes in northern Vavuniya district also on Tuesday.

Gandhi's row with neighbours

By Moses Manoharan
Reuters

NEW DELHI — A bitter row with Sri Lanka over withdrawal of Indian troops from the island and a trade war with Nepal threatened to overshadow Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's early diplomatic successes in an election year.

Analysts said last Tuesday the two issues gave the opposition a chance to make Gandhi's Congress (I) Party's foreign policy record a major issue for the first time in a general election, which Gandhi must call by the end of the year.

On Sri Lanka, Gandhi has rejected President Ranasinghe Premadasa's demand for the pullout by July 29 of 45,000 troops of the Indian Peace-Keeping Force (IPKF) sent under an accord be-

tween Gandhi and Premadasa's predecessor, Junius Jayewardene.

On Nepal, Gandhi has refused to renew trade arrangements which control the entry of nearly all imports into the landlocked Himalayan kingdom from India because of perceived moves to improve ties with China.

India's best-known opposition leader, Vishwanath Pratap Singh, has already said he intends to make Sri Lanka and Nepal part of his campaign platform for the polls.

The opposition will focus criticism on the loss of nearly 1,000 Indian soldiers in operations carried out by the Indian Peace-Keeping Force (IPKF) against Tamil rebels.

"The main concern of the Indian government is that it has no

way of justifying the issue to the public — what we have achieved there by sending our troops, by losing so many Indian lives and spending (millions) of rupees," he said.

"These are questions that are bound to be asked after the withdrawal is completed and particularly during an election campaign," Venkateswaran said.

The troops, sent to Sri Lanka to disarm Tamil rebels under the 1987 accord, are now in danger of turning into an occupation force, said Ashis Nandi.

Newspaper reports from Colombo, unconfirmed by the Sri Lankan government, say Sri Lanka may take the issue to the U.N. Security Council or the International Court at the Hague if India refuses to comply with the July 29 deadline.

START talks: No reductions for reductions' sake

By Jan M. Lodal

ROCKVILLE, Maryland — After a six-month suspension, the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks resumed 19th June amid high expectations generated by a series of dramatic moves in arms control. But without modifications in the U.S. negotiating position, certain provisions of the START agreement could violate the Hippocratic Oath of arms control: a treaty should do no harm.

The harm could be done if George Bush continues Ronald Reagan's emphasis on the unachievable goal of getting rid of all nuclear weapons. This emphasis could channel weapons modernisation in directions that undermine stability, making war more likely.

Nuclear stability depends heavily on large and diverse nuclear arsenals in both countries that make a disarming first-strike impossible. While the existing START pact would not immediately endanger stability, it could set precedents that might make future agreements more difficult to reach. Two relatively small changes in the U.S. negotiating stance could largely eliminate those problems.

First, the existing START limit

of 1,600 on weapons launchers should apply only to systems carrying multiple nuclear weapons — either missiles with multiple warheads or bombers with cruise missiles — and not to single-warhead missiles.

The United States also should reconsider its position on mobile intercontinental-range ballistic missiles. Until now, Washington has insisted that all such systems be banned. Yet, the United States is continuing to develop two mobile systems: a rail-mobile MX system, which would closely resemble the Soviet 10-warhead rail-mobile SS-24, and the mobile Midgetman, much like the Soviet single-warhead SS-25.

Both U.S. programmes are in trouble in Congress. The rail-mobile MX is particularly threatened. Many in Congress oppose both the 10-warhead MX missile and the idea of moving nuclear weapons on the U.S. civilian rail system in times of crisis. The rail-mobile MX will have a hard time surviving budget pressures, even if it is permitted by START.

There is a strong case to be made for banning large, mobile, multiple-warhead missiles, such as the SS-24, while dropping the proposed ban on single-warhead mobile ICBMs. Single-warhead

missiles are not perfectly reliable, and it would take two or more warheads to destroy each single-warhead weapon. Since the attacker would use up more weapons in a strike than it destroyed, it would be left with a less favourable balance of forces after the attack. As a result, there would be no incentive to attack in the first place.

By limiting launchers to 1,600, the START treaty would prevent the two sides from spreading their 4,900 warheads over an equal number of launchers.

To avoid this, the treaty should exempt single-warhead missiles from the 1,600 limit while simultaneously lowering the ceiling on launchers with multiple warheads, perhaps

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"In drama a child plays a role to understand or learn a specific thing. The power of drama in education lies in the fact that it actively involves children in the learning process; as a child acts out the role of a farmer, for

example, he is not only learning facts about what a farmer does, or how he lives, he is also gaining human experience by practicing language spontaneously, and adjusting to the situation."

Drama in education

By Hind-Lara Mango
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — In order to fulfil its aims, the Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund (QAF) encourages the participation of the public in social development plans. The Fund's services include opening centres in rural and deprived areas, and to house in each a kindergarten. "A child needs to learn through acting and working. Now-a-days we make use of a child's playing by using it as a tool for teaching, as is the case with drama," says Rabab Qubbaj, kindergarten supervisor at QAF.

Accordingly, the Fund recently held a seminar on 'Drama in Education'. The aim was to introduce drama in education as a new subject area emphasising its theoretical basis, and some practical applications. "The Fund realised that the courses it was offering teachers were becoming repetitive because of the courses' general nature. So we (at the Fund) decided to hold more 'specialised lectures' says Qubbaj who was the supervising teacher at the seminar.

So as to train teachers in early childhood education, the fund held a series of workshops in its centres in Ma'an, Tafleah, and El-Nuzha. Basically, the seminar is an end result of this period of training held with the teachers who work in the Fund's rural centres. It was apparent that professionals and non-professionals alike had no clear concept of drama in education, and its introduction in the scholastic curriculum as a tool for teaching.

At the seminar six working papers were presented. 'The Phenomena of Drama' was discussed by Muafid Hawamdeh, another 'Drama and Psychology' by Dr.

Abdel-Rahim Swilim, 'Puppets and Education' by Margo Malatian, and 'Drama and Sociology' by Dr. Fakhry Koustandi. Samar Dudi Karajah also discussed her paper on 'Drama in Education' and Patrick Redell talked about 'Drama in Education' as an English experience.

Redell explained about the models of the English curriculum that are designed and applied in various schools in England concerned with drama in education. For he has twenty years of experience in teaching, training teachers, and writing books on this subject.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Karajah said that the seminar was important because it clarified some points of confusion. For one thing, drama in education was defined as "Anything that involves people in active role taking situations in which attitudes are the chief concern lived at life rate. It is a process involving discovery from moment to moment, and problem-solving as the basis of learning."

She further explained that "In drama a child plays a role in, order to understand or learn a specific thing. The power of drama in education lies in the fact that it actively involves children in the learning process; as a child acts out the role of a farmer, for example, he is not only learning facts about what a farmer does, or how he lives, he is also gaining human experience by practicing language spontaneously, and adjusting to the situation."

Also discussed at the seminar was the role that a teacher undertakes. He is concerned in creating learning areas through which children can explore themes and situations like oppression, friendship, family relationships, and political issues. A teacher

challenges his students into looking closely at points of human tension, and converting the abstract into concrete.

Other areas clarified that relate to drama in education were theatre in education, and children's theatre. These are two professional entities where actors perform plays for children. In theatre in education teacher-actor teams perform plays that evolve from the curriculum, or from a theme that concerns a specific age group.

It was concluded that drama is important in the development of verbal skills, problem solving and decision making, self-confidence, and the capacity to assess and analyse. Drama also stimulates the imagination and helps a child in becoming more disciplined.

In addition, demonstrations were held by local drama teachers at the seminar. From the Amman Baccalaureate School Hala Khoury gave a practical demonstration, as did Juliett 'Awad from Amman El-Watanah School.

According to Qubbaj the seminar was a success because "in our meetings attendance decreases, so that by the third day few people come. This time however, we started out with 56 participants and ended up with 82 on the last day. The discussions were serious and objective, the Ministry of Education is going to form a committee that will carry out the recommendations. This way, our seminar will have achieved its purpose and not have been merely ink on paper."

Recommendations included the integration of drama in our school subjects or as an individual subject and studying how this can be achieved in the long run.

Mozambican refugees become prosperous peasant farmers

By Pascal Fletcher
Reuter

UKWIMI, Zambia — African refugees are usually seen as helpless and homeless, surviving on food handouts from aid organisations.

But not at Ukwimi, in Zambia's eastern province, where refugees from the civil war in Mozambique are not only growing enough to feed themselves but are producing surpluses to sell to local Zambians.

Instead of hungry faces queuing for daily food rations, the Ukwimi settlement presents a picture of rural prosperity.

Wickerwork silos bulging with fat maize cobs and well-tilled farm plots, or "Machambas," stand beside neat mud and wood huts.

The refugees' bumper crops of maize, groundnuts and beans are a small but important contribution to the local economy in a country which regularly imports large quantities of food despite its abundance of fertile land.

"It proves that if you give refugees adequate land and support, they are not a liability to the country they live in, but they can contribute to the national economy," said Anton Verwey, representative in Zambia of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

Nearly a quarter of the 13,000 Mozambicans at Ukwimi, among the first to be settled two years ago, are feeding themselves, and from June will stop receiving food aid.

The sprawling community, carved out of Virgin Bush 100 kilometres north of the border with Mozambique, is now being doubled in area to 300 square kilometres to hold up to 10,000 more refugees expected this year.

Instead of the bare tents and barbed-wire fences of many re-

fugee camps, Ukwimi, named after a local chief, consists of 46 separate villages linked by dirt roads through fields or bush.

Run by the UNHCR with the Zambian authorities and foreign aid organisations, it has warehouses, a clinic, a skills training centre, two primary schools, and a social club.

Self-sufficiency through farming is the main priority.

Newly-arrived refugee families are given hoes, axes, seeds and two hectares of land. For the first two years they receive a daily food ration.

Agricultural experts at Ukwimi are amazed by the results and say many of the refugees now have a higher standard of living than the local Zambian peasants.

In their first year at Ukwimi, the Mozambicans produced 117 tonnes of surplus maize which they sold to a local cooperative. This year they are expected to produce a 2,800 tonne-surplus.

Simao Vinte Goncalves, a 41-year-old farmer from the Tete province of Mozambique, proudly shows off the 1,290 kilogrammes sacks of rice grown on his plot.

"I only had a small farm in Mozambique," he said.

He and the other refugees have been taught new farming skills by Norwegian farming expert Magne Lund. They have learnt how to use fertilisers, rotate crops and grow soya beans and other new crops.

UNHCR officials hope Ukwimi will be self-sufficient in food by 1991, but some refugees are worried how they will manage.

"Yes, we have enough food but what we need are things like salt, soap, cooking oil and clothes," said 42-year-old Bernardo Gibanda from Maxixe in Mozambique's Inhambane province.

Ukwimi has a small shop that stocks such goods, as well as its own tailors coached at the Dan-

Computer viruses thwart experts

By John Markoff

NEW YORK — Computer experts in the United States are exploring a variety of cures for the nation's epidemic of computer viruses, but they see no sure way to stop outbreaks that threaten all but the most isolated and elaborately protected systems.

Some experts say the threat is so acute it may force a rethinking of the growing dependence on both large and small computers.

Infection by viruses, programmes that can secretly spread between computers and alter or destroy data, have increased dramatically.

For example, the software trade association Adapsco reported in March that there were 30,000 virus infections in the last two months of 1988, as against 3,000 in the first two months of that year.

Software experts have devised a number of techniques to ward off, detect and destroy viruses. But they concede that almost all systems remain vulnerable.

Further, efforts to make computer systems more secure inevitably reduce their flexibility and ease of use.

From a technical perspective there is no silver bullet," said John B. Landry, an executive vice president of Culinet Software Inc. and an Adapsco executive.

The problem is worsened by the growing use of computers, electronic bulletin boards and public and private computer networks.

"In recent years a lot of people became infatuated with what they could do with computers," said Eugene H. Spafford, a Purdue University computer scientist who has been involved in fighting viruses. "We have to pause and ask, 'Do we really want everybody in the country connected on a single computer network?'"

Viruses can enter a computer system in several ways.

For example, a disgruntled employee might introduce a virus that modifies programming language so it alters or destroys data. Or users who copy software from electronic bulletin boards might unwittingly pick up a programme whose author had imbed-

ded a virus in it. Or someone with access to a computer's passwords might transmit a virus to a computer system over telephone lines.

Once inside the computer, a virus might erase all a user's data, cause a particular message to appear on computer screens, or duplicate itself, clogging the computer's memory.

Researchers are most frightened by viruses that make minor modifications, like altering numbers in a spread sheet, thereby introducing errors that might never be noticed.

Researchers have taken several approaches to block virus entry or "vaccinate" computers so that users are notified when a virus is at work.

Also, many companies have drastically restricted employee access to computer systems or barred the use of borrowed or copied software. Others have broken up computer networks so that a virus cannot travel from system to system.

Some companies maintain their own security forces, which monitor computer systems to watch for viruses.

For example, Clifford Stoll, an astronomer at Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory in California, was monitoring a group of computers there when he discovered that a West German computer hacker had entered the system through an international computer network.

Other companies have been established to perform such surveillance. And several federal agencies have set up teams to look for loopholes in computer systems and respond quickly to virus attacks.

In the end, however, most experts acknowledge that no system is absolutely secure unless it is physically and electronically isolated from potential sources of infection.

Viruses can enter a computer system in several ways.

For example, a disgruntled employee might introduce a virus that modifies programming language so it alters or destroys data. Or users who copy software from electronic bulletin boards might unwittingly pick up a programme whose author had imbed-

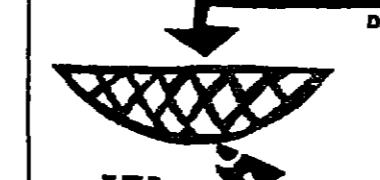
Identifying Electronic Contamination
Viral strains are collected. Some viruses may attach themselves to ordinary programs



Viruses are disassembled and analyzed. Suspicious strings of coding are identified



Distinguishing characteristics are extracted



A screen for infection

Once viral characteristics are identified, designers are given programs to watch for them. They might include unusual instructions to modify coding, unusual use of disk space or even instructions to print messages like 'Goomba'.

Scanning an infected system

Applied to other disks, the anti-virus program can identify contaminated software.

Curing the infection

A skilled programmer can erase the virus or the vaccine can do it automatically.

their products might be tampered with before they reach the market.

Several dozen companies have published vaccines to protect against viruses. They generally work by keeping track of key operating system software and interrupting operation when modifications are made.

But the companies acknowledge that the protection they offer is limited, largely because virus writers can design viruses to circumvent them.

In fact, virus experts suggest that vaccine programmes may actually compound the problem by offering an intellectual challenge to rogue programmers.

It is virtually impossible to tell where a virus came from or even what kind of computer system it was written on.

Many software publishers have increased quality control procedures and are testing software more vigorously for fear that

the vaccines "give people a

false sense of security," said Robert M. Frankston, chief scientist at the Lotus Development Corp. in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Ultimately, advances in computer design may limit the spread of viruses, computer researchers say.

Mainframe and minicomputers have traditionally been less vulnerable than personal computers because they contain sophisticated hardware and software memory protection features. For example, hardware available in advanced systems limits the areas in which a programme can operate. In the future, this feature will be available in personal computers, making the spread of viruses more difficult — *The New York Times*.

Small fry fighting the big fish in the Philippines

By Amanda Milligan

Pollution from shoreline factories and the practice of commercial fishpen farming threatens the livelihoods of traditional small-scale Filipino fishing people. They are fighting back.

MANILA — Max Mendoza can remember a time when fishing was easy in the inland waters around the Philippine capital of Manila: "Fish were plentiful in the river near my house," he says. "We caught different varieties and species and we had the choice of keeping only the bigger fish."

Max's friend, Safronyo Balagdas, even remembers catching fish with his bare hands. But today Filipino fishing people like them are deeply concerned about their future. In a country of over 7,000 islands, fishing provides a livelihood for an estimated six million Filipinos and also gives poor families a significant source of cheap protein.

The brand-new ploughs and tools, hammer mills and expertly-drilled water holes at Ukwimi, all provided by foreign aid, are luxuries rarely seen in Zambian villages.

Officials admit the refugees' prosperity has caused jealousy among their less fortunate Zambian neighbours.

But today Filipino fishing people like them are deeply concerned about their future. In a country of over 7,000 islands, fishing provides a livelihood for an estimated six million Filipinos and also gives poor families a significant source of cheap protein.

"We will be seeing a situation in the future in which Zambians will be working for Mozambicans," Lund said.

UNHCR officials say the Ukwimi refugees are the luckiest of more than half a million people.

"About 245 of these factories are highly pollutive," she says. "Some have no waste treatment

equipment at all and the facilities of others are poorly maintained; their industrial waste poses serious environmental and health hazards to individuals and animals."

Pollution of inland waters is further aggravated by intensive agricultural practices which release pesticides and fertilisers into rivers and lakes, also killing fish.

Another major problem for lake fishermen is the proliferation of fishpens. These are areas of

Laguna Bay chapter started in July 1987 and is now in touch with

20 different groups around the lake.

Deanna Lichauchao explains that, as a Pamalakaya worker, she helps to establish and strengthen small fishing organisations which work to protect the livelihood of their members and to lobby for their concerns.

"The value to them of being part of Pamalakaya is that their problems, even if they are big, become lighter because they are solved as a group," she says.

Fishing people and the local community have been banding together and approaching factories, urging them not to pollute the water and kill the fish. — *PANOS*

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Syria treads recovery path

DAMASCUS (AP) — A string of oil discoveries in the eastern desert and a new determination to boost the private sector are helping Syria climb out of a deep economic trough.

With the help of Western oil companies, the country this year became a net oil exporter for the first time, with revenues of \$550 million forecast by early 1990.

"Self-sufficiency in energy is something you really appreciate when you've never had it before," Economy Minister Mohammed Imadi said in an interview.

"The studies show that we have a continuous oil and gas supply for our needs and a surplus for export whenever we need the foreign exchange," he said.

For the Syrians, whose economy has been in such poor shape it barely had enough foreign exchange to cover one week's imports, the oil flow offers the prospect of badly needed revenue.

The modest oil boom has come as Syria struggles to reduce annual inflation of more than 65 per cent and service its \$18 billion foreign debt.

Three-quarters of the debt is owed to the Soviet Union, mostly for arms purchased for strategic parity with Israel.

Oil giants Royal Dutch Shell, British Petroleum, Occidental of the United States, and France's Total are among 10 foreign companies involved in ex-

ploring and developing the new fields as quickly as possible.

"It's a high-pressure job because the Syrians are really in a rush to get the oil out of the ground," said one exploration expert, who spoke on condition of anonymity. "The better we do, the more we're asked to do."

Syria has been pumping around 150,000 barrels a day of heavy crude from the Souweidieh fields in the northeast since the early 1970s and mixing it with imported light crude for domestic use.

Prospecting at that time by the country's East Bloc allies brought no results, but advanced technology helped Shell locate the Thayyem fields in 1984.

The new wells are already producing around 200,000 barrels a day of saleable crude, raising overall output to 350,000 barrels a day, more than double the country's needs.

But because the deposits are "generally small and fractured, exploration will have to be continuous in order to guarantee long-term supplies," the expert said.

Oil Minister Mutanious Habib recently told the Middle East Economic Survey, an oil industry newsletter, that another 50,000 barrels a day will be added later

this year from three new fields. He said Syria was "evaluating potential reserves throughout the country" in what he called a "crucial year" for exploration.

The government has also signed a contract with the U.S. Marathon Company to develop natural gas deposits south of ancient Palmyra, to be used instead of oil and hydro-power for generating electricity.

Imadi said that the increased

oil output and a record harvest following higher-than-average rainfall helped the economy grow by a staggering 10.7 per cent last year.

This year, agricultural production will fall sharply because of a winter drought that is already causing water shortages in Damascus. But officials estimate that the oil boom will still fuel growth of around 7.2 per cent a year.

Syria is negotiating border deals to settle accounts with foreign creditors and cut import bills. Phosphate exports, for example, will pay for importing antibiotics from France and Italy.

A senior government official said that a crackdown on smuggling is working, but that incentives for private businessmen to improve industrial production and earn the right to import more are the most effective way of curbing the blackmarket economy.

The government recently hiked wages by 25 per cent, but gasoline prices immediately jumped by 50 per cent and some foodstuffs by 30 per cent.

Contraband ranging from bananas and French cheeses to

clothing and computer software arrives in Syria by the truckload from neighbouring Lebanon, foreign residents of Damascus say.

Under the new measures, businessmen can use up to 75 per cent of their export earnings to finance imports. They can also go into partnership with the government in tourism, transportation and agri-business projects.

To attract expatriate Syrians to invest at home, tax incentives and a law allowing businessmen to transfer earnings abroad are being prepared. There are plans, too, for reviving the Damascus stock market after a quarter-century gap.

"It's common sense to have the private sector more actively involved in the economy," Imadi said.

But Western diplomats predict it will be a while before the Syrian economy takes off.

There is a great commercial tradition here, but because of the complex bureaucracy, and corruption, it can't be revived from one day to the next," one commented.

Syrians say they find it hard to manage on salaries that range from 1,250 Syrian pounds (\$63) a month for a taxi-driver to 2,500 (\$125) for a university professor.

The government recently hiked wages by 25 per cent, but gasoline prices immediately jumped by 50 per cent and some foodstuffs by 30 per cent.

Contraband ranging from bananas and French cheeses to

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

U.K. oil giants announce price cuts

LONDON (R) — Britain's major oil companies have announced petrol price cuts in line with a trend towards lower pump prices in other West European countries. British Petroleum Co. Plc. and the British subsidiaries of Exxon Corp. and Royal Dutch/Shell said

they were cutting the cost of leaded premium grade petrol. The announcements followed last week's cut by Petrofina (U.K.) Ltd., which trimmed prices by six pence (9.3 cents) a gallon (4.5 litre), saying it wanted to pass on a fall in international oil prices to its customers. Esso said it had reduced its prices by between 2.5 pence (3.8 cents) and 6.5 pence (10.1 cents) over the past few days, while B.P. said it would reduce the wholesale price of its petrol by 3.1 pence (4.8 cents) a gallon from midday Tuesday. Shell is knocking 6.4 pence (9.9 cents) a gallon off its price, a spokesman said.

Morocco to reap 'excellent' harvest

RABAT (R) — Morocco will harvest an excellent cereals crop of about 7.25 million tonnes this season, according to figures published by the ministry of agriculture and agrarian reform. The harvest of hard and soft wheats, barley and maize will be the third best ever after a record 7.89 million tonnes last year and 7.34 million in 1986 compared to the ten-year average of 4.7 million tonnes. Fears of crop failure because of lack of rain in February and March proved unfounded after widespread and plentiful rainfall in April. The ministry said the harvest would include 1.64 million tonnes of hard wheat, 2.42 million tonnes of soft bread wheat, 2.8 million tonnes of barley and 390,000 tonnes of maize. Output of barley is substantially below last year's when it was 3.5 million tonnes of which some was exported. The ministry added that a record sugar beet crop was expected this season. Last year sugar output covered 65 per cent of national requirements.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Thursday, June 22, 1989		
Central Bank official rates		
Buy	Sell	French franc
U.S. dollar	563.7	569.7
Pound Sterling	882.0	890.8
Deutschmark	288.5	291.4
Swiss franc	334.4	337.7
		French franc (for 100)
		320.5 325.5
		Dutch guilder
		256.3 258.8
		Swedish crown
		35.3 34.2
		Italian lire (for 100)
		35.7 34.1
		Belgian franc (for 10)
		137.3 139.3

Amman Financial Market weekly trading

Following is a summary of trading during last week and the previous week:

	June 17-21	June 10-14
Daily average	JD 1,642.25	JD 1,517.615
Total volume	JD 8,211,125	JD 6,071,615
Total shares	4,590,891	4,154,962
No. of contracts	4,727	4,127
Sectoral trading:		
Industrial	JD 4,858,472	JD 4,490,239
Financial	JD 2,222,010	JD 745,376
Service	(28.3%)	(12.3%)
Insurance	(10.9%)	(12.5%)
Share price index	130.00	129.00
No. of companies	63	62
Price movement (rise):	32	32
(decline)	20	14
(stable)	11	16

Brazil liquidates brokerage houses

BRASILIA (AP) — The government has liquidated a sixth stock brokerage involved in an unprecedented financial scandal that rocked Brazilian markets and forced the government's top banker to resign.

Jose Tupy Caldas De Moura, the central bank's chief auditor for brokerage firms, announced the liquidation of the Progresso S.A. brokerage, a São Paulo-based firm.

Progresso S.A. had run up a debt of 3.6 million cruzados, an equivalent of \$2.58 million at the official exchange rate, during the scandal.

The liquidation, the sixth in two days since an investigation of 29 companies began, will probably be followed by others in the coming days, De Moura said in a news conference.

Last week, the central bank closed the brokerages of Ney Carvalho, Cetton, Titular, Beta, and Capitanea Distribuidora, owned by Elmo Camoes, who quit Monday as head of the bank, Brazil's equivalent of the U.S. Federal Reserve.

The six stock firms had run up a total debt of 86.6 million cruzados, equal to nearly \$67 million, during a weeklong tailspin that saw share prices plunge by more than 34 per cent.

At the centre of the furor was super-investor Naji Nahas, a 42-year-old multimillionaire businessman and the no. 1 investor in Brazil's \$30 billion stock market.

Nahas bounced checks worth \$31 million to several brokerages for the purchase of stock futures, said the Brazilian Securities Commission, the rough equivalent of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

The commission said Nahas had borrowed heavily to invest in blue-chip stocks, taking advantage of a rule that allowed him to pay five days later. Meanwhile, he pumped up the stock's price by paying large amounts of common stock, so the shares he received later were worth more.

When banks restricted credit for that type of operation, Nahas' checks to several brokerages were returned for lack of funds.

The Monday after the scandal broke, the commission declared a one-day stock market holiday to prevent panic among investors, but the government refused to bail out the brokerages or the Rio exchange.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.		
One Sterling	1.5555/65	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.1905/15	Canadian dollar
	1.9515/25	Deutschmarks
	2.2005/15	Dutch guilders
	1.6880/60	Swiss francs
	40.82/87	Belgian francs
	6.6300/50	French francs
	1416.5/1417.5	Italian lire
	139.85/95	Japanese yen
	6.6175/6225	Swedish crowns
	7.1150/1200	Norwegian crowns
	7.6050/6100	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	370.00/370.40	U.S. dollars

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — The Australian share market closed slightly easier in lacklustre trade amid negative sentiment over high interest rates. The All Ordinaries fell 2.9 to 1,510.5.

TOKYO — Index-linked buying by investment trust funds propelled share prices to close broadly higher in moderate trade. The Nikkei gained 205.74 to 33,530.71.

HONG KONG — Stocks closed lower in thin trade after early gains. The Hang Seng index fell 12.82 points to 2,219 amid uncertainty about events in China and about the property market.

SINGAPORE — Share prices fell marginally lower for the third consecutive day amid bouts of profit-taking in quiet trade. The Straits Times industrial index shed 4.14 to 1,290.29.

BOMBAY — Share prices met with resistance at higher levels to closed mixed after the market opened bullish for the third day in a row. Associated Cement fell 4.5 rupees to 320.5 and Gujarat Fertiliser 1.25 to 158.75.

FRANKFURT — Shares ended firmer and dealers expected the rally to continue next week amid demand from domestic and international investors. The real-time 30-share DAX index closed up 7.37 points to 1,491.20.

ZURICH — Swiss shares closed firmer but below highs. The all-share Swiss performance index closed 3.8 higher on the day and 22.5 on the week at 1,100.9 points.

PARIS — Share prices ended the first day of the new account strongly up, spurred by the spate of bullish corporate news from annual general meetings, by the lower dollar and Wall Street's gains. The 50-share bourse indicator ended 1.23 per cent up.

LONDON — Stocks were above the day's lows in cautious late business, after a 20-point gain on Wall Street gave the market some encouragement. By 1535 GMT, the FTSE 100 index was 14.3 off to 2,165.7.

NEW YORK — Wall Street stocks were at their session highs, pushing into resistance above the Dow 2500 level by midday. The Dow was ahead 24 points at 2502.

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Greek conservative leader fails to form coalition government

ATHENS (R) — Greece's conservative opposition leader, Constantine Mitsotakis, told reporters Friday he had failed to form a coalition government after three days of talks with a communist-led alliance.

Caretaker Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou, whose Socialist Party was beaten into a distant second in national elections Sunday, will now have three days to try to form a coalition government.

No party emerged with an absolute majority in the 300-seat parliament after the elections. Each of the top three parties is given a three-day period to try to form a coalition before fresh elections are called.

"The sole responsibility for the fact that Greece is still being governed by PASOK (the Socialist Party), scandal-ridden and with Papandreou sick, lies with the left," Mitsotakis told a news conference after his three-day mandate expired.

Papandreou, 70, was taken to hospital Thursday night suffering from breathing problems and a cold. He had open-heart surgery in London in September.

Mitsotakis' centre-right New Democracy Party came first in the election, winning 145 seats, and has spent the past three days

trying to persuade a new communist alliance, with 28 seats, to form a coalition government.

Mitsotakis and Communist alliance leader Harilaos Florakis have said they want immunity from prosecution lifted for PASOK ministers accused of involvement in multi-million-dollar scandals in the arms and banking industries.

Florakis has called for a government of national unity, comprising elements from the three main parties to rule Greece while a full investigation is carried out. The investigations could be followed by a new election later this year.

Papandreou, who has dominated Greek politics for the past eight years, said he, too, would seek a coalition with the communists during his three-day mandate to form a coalition, which has officially begun.

His Panhellenic Socialist Movement (PASOK) was soundly defeated in the election, emerging with only 125 seats, but Papandreou insists "democratic

and progressive" forces hold an absolute majority. A PASOK-Communist front would command 153 seats.

Political commentators give Papandreou little chance of wooing the Communists who were banned from 1945 to 1974 and last controlled ministries in a brief government of national unity in 1944.

Papandreou continues to be plagued by financial scandals and health problems as he struggles to maintain his grip on power.

He was taken to hospital suffering from a respiratory infection and doctors say he will stay in hospital for a few more days. In effect, he will be trying to form a coalition from his hospital bed.

Another bank scandal hit the Socialist Wednesday when U.S. agents arrested 13 officials of the state-run National Mortgage Bank of Greece in the United States, and charged the bank with helping clients evade taxes by illegally concealing some \$700 million.

Papandreou and his government have been savaged by scandals over the past 10 months, among them Papandreou's much-publicised extramarital affair with air hostess Dimitra Liani, 34.

The transport strike, which closed many schools and colleges and brought down attendance in offices, was a major provocation for the government to impose a state of emergency Tuesday.

The government believes



Colombo taxis and three-wheelers observe a strike in support of striking government-employed bus drivers

Colombo flexes emergency muscles

COLOMBO (R) — The Sri Lankan government, armed with sweeping powers under emergency rule, has begun flexing its muscles, serving an ultimatum on striking bus workers to report for work Monday or lose their jobs.

Fifty thousand employees of the state-run Transport Board have been on strike since June 12 paralysing commuters in Colombo and virtually halting inter-provincial travel.

In a statement, the Transport Ministry told bus workers to report for work Monday, saying they would cease to be employees of the Transport Board if they did not.

The transport strike, which closed many schools and colleges and brought down attendance in offices, was a major provocation for the government to impose a state of emergency Tuesday.

The government believes

Sinhalese militants of the People's Liberation Front (JVP) are behind the strike, which looks like spreading to other sectors.

The emergency rules, lifted last January after more than five years, give the military powers to detain people without trial.

Diplomatic sources said they expected the government to get tough. "I am sure we will see some action in a day or two," said one Western diplomat. "The emergency is a formal warning, a signal that force will be applied."

On Thursday, the government operated some of the buses in Colombo with the help of army drivers.

The JVP, which has spurned government offers to talk peace, has increasingly made its presence felt in Colombo and has a firm grip over southern Sri Lanka, its major stronghold

where its supporters include Buddhist monks.

It is opposed to the presence of Indian troops fighting a separatist rebellion by the country's minority Tamils in the northeast.

In Colombo, it has fanned anti-Indian sentiment and called for the boycott of Indian goods.

The presence of Indian troops has become an emotive issue in Sri Lanka with wide support for President Ranasinghe Premadasa's call for withdrawal before the end of next month.

Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has said a full withdrawal would have to be worked out jointly by the two sides, effectively rejecting the idea of a pull out by the end of July.

A Foreign Office spokesman in New Delhi said Thursday Gandhi had written to Premadasa that a full withdrawal had to be worked

out bilaterally, not unilaterally.

Premadasa's government has opened talks with the Tamil Tigers, the most powerful guerrilla group in the north, in the hope of bringing peace to Tamil-dominated areas of the island.

Starr will sing, play drums again

NEW YORK (AP) — Ringo Starr will play drums and sing on his first tour since the Beatles broke up nearly 20 years ago, the New York Times reports. Starr today planned to announce details of the tour, which starts July 23 in Dallas, Texas, and ends Sept. 3 in Los Angeles. He will be accompanied in a nine-piece band by guitarist Joe Walsh, who produced Starr's last album, "Old Wave" in 1983; Billy Preston, the organist who played with the Beatles on the "Let It Be" album; former members of the band and Clarence Clemmons, the saxophonist in Bruce Springsteen's E Street band.

Dancer wants last waltz with Diana

LONDON (AP) — Wayne Sleep, the ballet star who danced with the Princess of Wales on stage three years ago, hopes to crown his career sharing "the last waltz with Diana." The princess, a fan and former pupil, will be in the audience for a gala charity performance of Sleep's current show. The dancer recently announced that he will retire in the fall and concentrate on acting. Unlike the night in 1985 when the couple danced a high-kicking waltz at Covent garden, no secret preparations for a royal turn have been made. Sleep, however, is ready to dance. "It would be my final glory to have my old partner back again," he told Press Association Wednesday.

Two ocean-going tugboats will tow the tanker with another tug and a salvage ship trailing behind, Exxon spokesman Joe Tucker said.

The coast guard expects the

coast guard

will move about

160 kilometres offshore at five

knobs, making it a 20-day trip to San Diego, officials said.

"As I understand it, the Valdez

will not be moving under its own

power," Tucker said. "But they

(engines) are capable of being

fired up."

Repairing the tanker, which

spilled almost 11 million gallons

of north slope crude oil into

Prince William Sound when it ran

aground March 24, will require

the replacement of 3,000 tons of

steel.

Toy car triggers adult collision

CLACKAMAS, Oregon (AP) —

A driver who caused a three-car

collision did not have a license to

show a sheriff's deputy and now

he will not be eligible for one

until the year 2003. This is when

Justin Aronson turns 16. The

two-year-old boy drove his

battery-powered toy car onto a

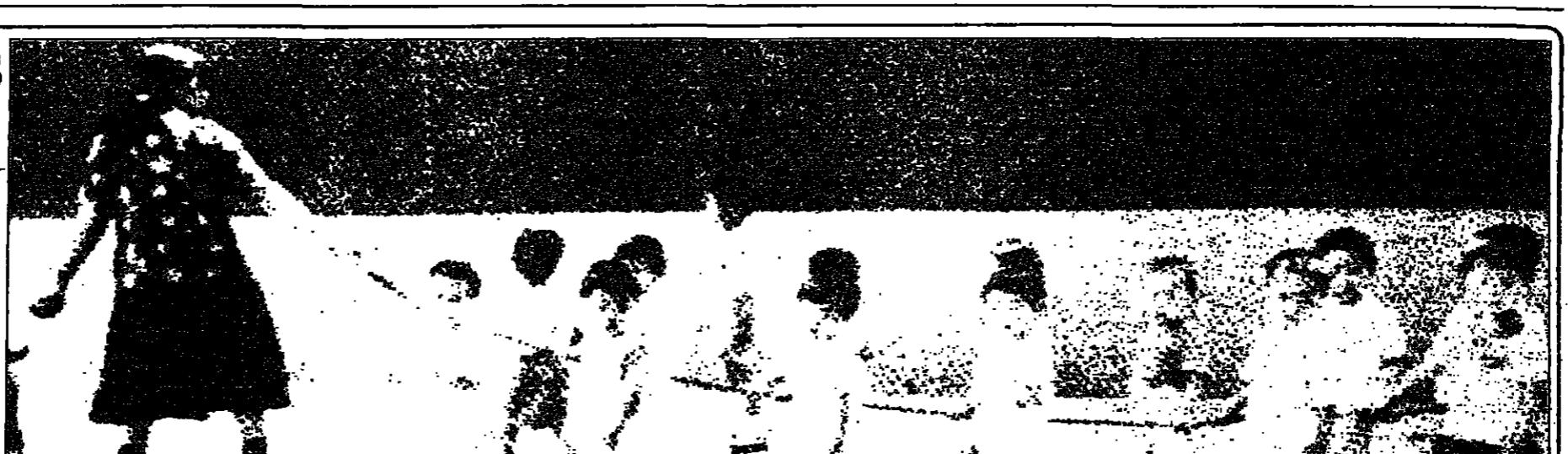
suburban road Sunday and triggered

a collision by drivers in

adult-sized cars who tried to avoid him, said Clackamas County Sheriff's deputy Michael F. Helmstad. Two cars and a small pickup truck were damaged but no one was hurt, Helmstad said. Justin's father, Daniel, said Justin drove off in his toy car while he was cleaning the family's garage. The father said he found Justin just after the accident and took the boy and his toy car home. Helmstad wrote in his report that he interviewed everybody involved in the accident except for Justin. "He couldn't talk yet," Helmstad noted.

Global weather
(major world cities)

	C	F	T	W
AMSTERDAM	14	57	22	Cloudy
ATENAS	15	58	32	Cloudy
BAHRAIN	25	77	32	Cloudy
BANGKOK	25	77	34	Cloudy
BUENOS AIRES	10	50	18	Cloudy
CARIO	23	73	35	Cloudy
CHICAGO	25	73	33	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	13	55	27	Cloudy
FRANKFURT	16	59	22	Cloudy
HANOVER	16	61	28	Cloudy
HONG KONG	25	77	37	Cloudy
ISTANBUL	25	77	34	Cloudy
LONDON	14	57	24	Cloudy
LOS ANGELES	17	62	34	Cloudy
MADRID	17	62	37	Cloudy
MELBOURNE	26	79	35	Cloudy
MONTREAL	22	72	32	Cloudy
MOSCOW	18	63	27	Cloudy
NEW DELHI	27	80	40	Cloudy
NEW YORK	21	70	28	Cloudy
PARIS	25	77	32	Cloudy
SAO PAULO	15	59	35	Cloudy
TOKYO	21	70	28	Cloudy
URUGUAY	19	59	21	Cloudy



A GROUP of children, tied together at the wrists and ankles, are led for a walk past the Communist Party headquarters in Peking. The children are tied together to keep them from wandering into the streets when they go on walks. Life returned to normal in Peking as it entered the first month of martial law.

what comes now is a matter of deep concern to many Asians.

"A China with large sections of her people, including her best educated, at odds with the government means trouble, with people resentful, reforms stalled and economy stagnant," said Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kwan Yew.

"Because of her size, such a China could create problems for herself and her neighbours in Asia."

"We still have to make up our mind whether it is proper for us to go ahead," ministry spokesman Taizo Watanabe said Tuesday.

"Asian countries have important interests at stake in not rocking the boat in relations with China. Nations that have expressed regret and little more include India, Pakistan, Nepal, Indonesia, South Korea, Thailand, Vietnam, the Philippines and Japan."

Japan justifies its low-keyed stance by recalling its own mis-

After the events in Peking, most Asian governments have combined expressions of

regret at the bloodshed in Peking with a refusal to lecture China about its internal affairs.

But among them, Japan is quietly flexing its economic muscle as China's main supplier of credit. Tokyo has not made up its mind what conditions to set, however, before reopening talks with Peking on a multibillion-dollar loan programme.

The 5.7 million people of Hong Kong revert to Chinese rule in 1997. A poll in May, before the bloodshed in Peking, showed one-third of Hong Kong's people want to emigrate before China takes over. Britain, Hong Kong's colonial ruler, says it would be politically impossible to take in many of them.

China had been becoming a potent contributor to regional economic growth. Its open-door economic policy, in effect for 10 years, had drawn substantial Asian investment, much of it channelled through Hong Kong.

More than that, China's political stability of warming relations with the Soviet Union, India, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and other Asian countries had fostered a feeling that Asia could look forward to a time of peace, profits and problem-solving.

Japan justifies its low-keyed stance by recalling its own mis-

After the events in Peking, most Asian governments have combined expressions of

border clashes in the 1980s.

"Over the past 40 years, China has witnessed one political upheaval in every 10 years," Nguyen Co Thach, Vietnam's foreign minister and deputy premier, said in a recent interview in Hanoi with the Associated Press.

"What worries foreign countries is whether China would carry out outside adventures to solve its internal crisis."

China is a key player in the struggle over Cambodia's future, since Peking supports the rebels fighting the Vietnamese-backed Phnom Penh government. So far there has been no indication how the turmoil in China will affect moves towards peace in Cambodia.

If they did not criticise China sharply, elected governments in Asia still mourned the

democracy in Peking.

"We are for democracy everywhere because we feel it is the best option," said Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, whose country fought a border war with China in 1962.

At stake for India now is progress to end territorial disputes on the 3,800-kilometre border with China. The two countries have border talks scheduled for June 30 in Peking.

In Taiwan, thoughts of eventual unification with China have been put aside for the time being.

"Only by toppling the communist tyranny can we reunify with China," said Premier Lee Huan, calling on all countries to help bring the downfall of what he termed "this vicious